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ABSTRACT

This module provides cultural information that will be helpful to military personnel in understanding some aspects of the German way of life. The topics covered in the booklet are: housing, postal services, forms of address, courtesies, getting around, driving, hotels, restaurants, beer and wine, recreation, entertainment, health spas, shopping, conversion of clothing sizes, and a menu guide. An end vocabulary is included. (AMH)

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HEADSTART

GERMAN PROGRAM

CULTURAL NOTES

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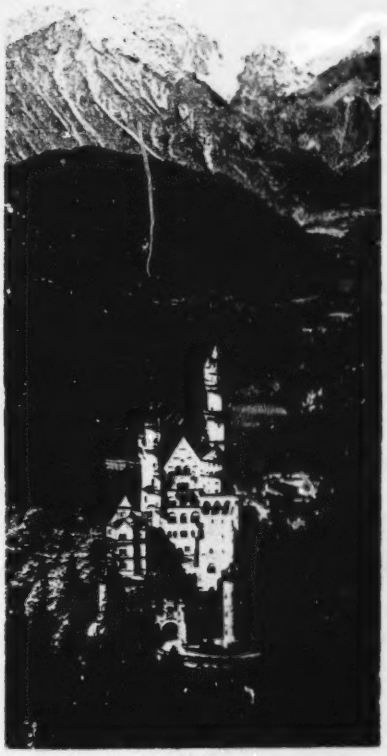
WELCOME



You are or soon will be in the Federal Republic of Germany, Bundesrepublik Deutschland (BRD). What is commonly referred to as East Germany is officially called the German Democratic Republic, Deutsche Demokratische Republik (DDR).

You will have the opportunity to experience many of the exciting things that a foreign country offers. Since German customs are somewhat different from those you are familiar with, you may find this booklet helpful in understanding some of the more important aspects of the German way of life.

WHERE DO THEY SPEAK GERMAN?

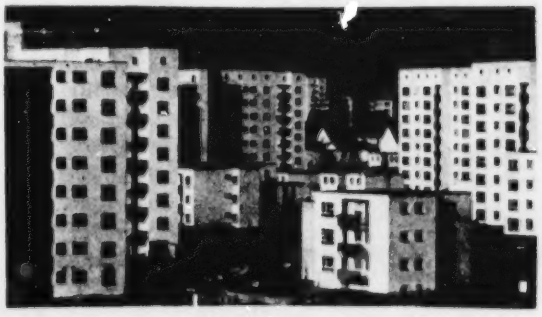
West Germany is only about the size of the state of Oregon, yet there are 62 million people living there. Although there are several regional dialects, everybody can understand and speak the standard language, called "High German" (Hochdeutsch), which is also used on radio and television.

While it is unlikely that you will visit communist East Germany, you may want to travel to Switzerland or Austria. German is the only language spoken in Austria, whereas it is just one of the three official languages spoken in Switzerland (the other two being French and Italian). The German-speaking part of Switzerland borders on Austria and Germany, and on a map you

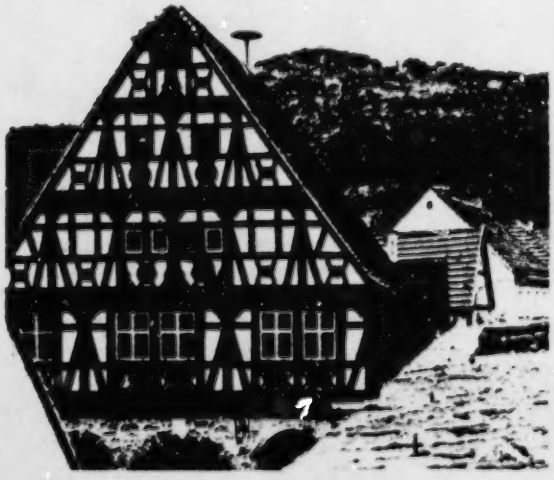
can easily identify the German-sounding place names. The Swiss and Austrians differ from the Germans in certain ways, including their dialect, but they use essentially the same language, and communication is generally no problem.

The language skills you acquire by completing this course will help you wherever German is spoken. These cultural notes, however, relate principally to West Germany, since that is where U.S. Forces are now stationed.

HOUSING



If you have to rent on the economy, you will find that suitable apartments are in short supply in some areas. Most German apartments are unfurnished--they even come without lights, curtains, stove, or refrigerator. Unfurnished apartments cost about as much as in the United States, while furnished apartments are both more expensive and harder to find. Utilities are generally not included in the rent. Also, do not expect to get a garage space or carport with your apartment. Generally, garages are not "associated" with apartments. Even when garage space is available, garages are at such a premium that there is normally an additional charge for them. A security deposit (Kaution), usually 1,000 marks - about 430 dollars - is often required when renting an apartment (without garage). This is quite a sizable sum, considering that you essentially get four bare walls, windows, and doors and all you have to do is return four bare walls, windows, and doors when you move out again.



Should you rent on the economy, you might want to take advantage of a quaint German custom to meet your neighbors.

It is customary for the tenants of an apartment building to take turns cleaning the stairs and entrance hall. So, if a sign reading Kehrwoche suddenly appears on your floor, it means that it is your turn to sweep up. After you've finished move the sign to the next floor! So when your turn comes, take your time and you'll eventually meet most of your neighbors.

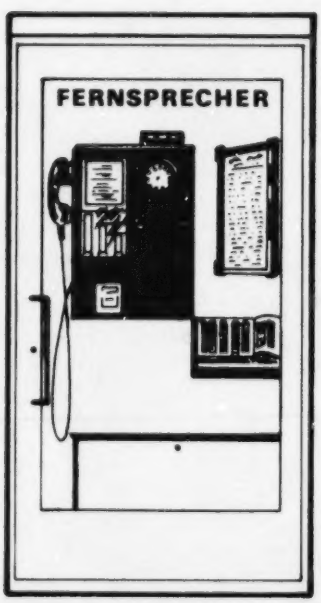
Any repairs that may become necessary due to normal wear and tear, as well as painting and wallpapering, are the responsibility of the tenant, who will not be reimbursed for it.

In your new neighborhood you will find that Germans do not usually go out of their way to meet new neighbors. This is not because they are unfriendly but because they respect the privacy of others.

POSTAL SERVICES

Although you will probably take care of your mailing on post, you might have occasion to use a German post office, if you are on a trip or stationed in a small town, for instance.

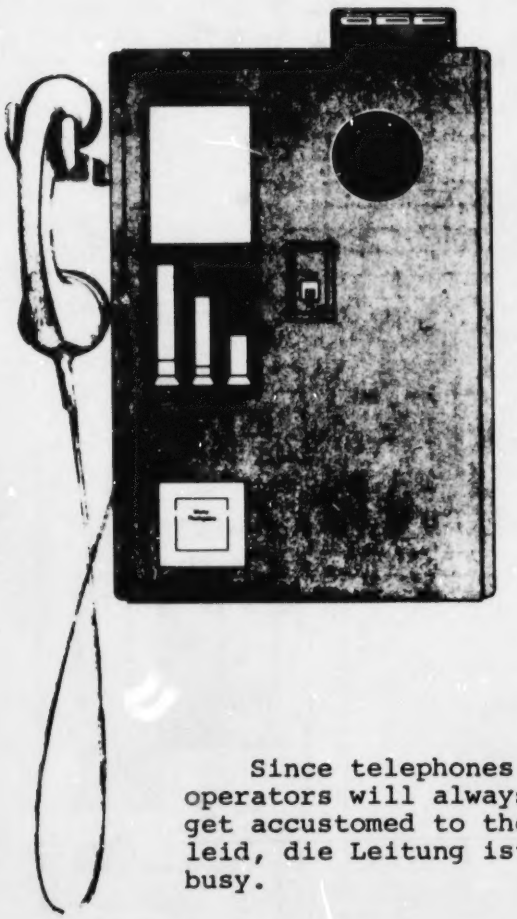
Post offices are generally open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays until noon. In small towns they close for lunch. Although mailboxes are normally yellow, in cities that have an airport, special mailboxes for airmail can be recognized by their blue color.



The postal service also operates the telephone, telegraph, and teletype systems and its own (yellow) bus line, it offers banking services (including money orders)

and technically manages the radio and television networks. All radio and TV stations are public institutions, managed by community councils or institutions. There are no private stations.

The Germans are reputed to have the most expensive telephone system in the world. You even have to pay for each local call from your own phone. From yellow public pay phones, Fernsprecher you can make local and long distance calls (Germany and abroad) without operator assistance. By means of light signals, the machine tells you how much money you owe. A few seconds before the time is up, a light will tell you to put in additional coins if you don't want to be cut off. From your home phone, and some pay phones, you can dial a U.S. number directly.



In direct long distance dialing, you first dial a five-digit area code called Vorwählnummer. To call (212) 123-4567 in New York, you would first dial 00. The rest is similar to our direct dialing system in the U.S. as the full number you would dial would be 00 - 1 - 212 - 123-4567. Directory assistance is 118, foreign directory assistance 00118. If there is no direct dialing for foreign calls, dial 0010 to receive the overseas operator.

Since telephones will always be telephones, and operators will always be operators, you might as well get accustomed to the following phrase: Es tut mir leid, die Leitung ist besetzt. - Sorry, the line is busy.

FORMS OF ADDRESS

What strikes the American visitor first is the apparent formality among Germans who talk to each other. Rarely do you hear first names, only last names preceded by some kind of title. To avoid unnecessary embarrassment, you should become familiar with some of those titles and forms of address.

"Miss," the title for young unmarried women, is Fräulein. It is a form of address followed by the person's last name as in Fräulein Müller. However, mature women, married or single, are referred to as Frau. Waitresses, and sometimes store attendants, are addressed as Fräulein, regardless of age or marital status. This is the only case in which Fräulein may be used without the last name.

A married woman is always referred to by her own first name rather than her husband's. Thus, Mrs. Müller is not Frau Hans Müller but Frau Gerda Müller.

When addressing males you always use Herr (Mr.) before the last name. So far so good. It gets a bit more complicated when the person you are talking to has a title.

Germans are very title conscious and the title goes with the name, be it academic or medical (Doktor, Professor), religious (Pastor), military (Major), or civic (Minister - not a clergyman but a government official). Talking to Dr. Müller, therefore, you would address him as Herr Doktor Müller. Military ranks and academic titles are preceded by Herr or Frau. Addressing someone of higher rank or status than yourself, you would say Herr Major, Frau Doktor, or Herr Professor, either with or without the person's last name.

As is the case with many other foreign languages, there are also two forms of the word "you" in German. Sie is used in talking to adults whom one addresses by their last name (Herr Müller, Fräulein Müller, Frau Doktor Schmidt and so on). Since Germans only call good friends by their first names, Sie is the most common word for "you." Whenever you are on a first-name basis with someone, the word for "you" becomes Du. It is reserved for close friends, relatives, and children. Remember that you cannot go wrong using Sie and a person's last name until such time as a German offers to use the Du-form when talking to you. In recent years Germans, especially younger people, have become more informal, and sometimes they switch from Sie to Du after knowing each other for only a relatively short time.

(Also note that Du is used when talking to animals. No formal arrangement to make this form acceptable to both parties is necessary!)

COURTESIES

Every country has its own customs and conventions, and knowing the unwritten laws of your host country can save you a lot of trouble. Therefore it is important to consider some of these here.

Germans shake hands wherever and whenever they get together, when being introduced to someone, and when they leave. They even do this regularly with people whom they see every day, for instance at work. A woman is the first to extend her hand when shaking hands with a man. Otherwise, it is the older or socially more prominent person who initiates the handshake.

On special occasions, a gentleman will greet a lady by kissing her hand; this is a symbolic act that is not to be heard and hardly to be felt. In other words, the hand-kissing techniques of Graucho Marx which you might have seen on TV are definitely not to be recommended for imitation!

When entering a restaurant, a man walks ahead of a woman. In the street he walks on her left. The custom of walking on the left allegedly dates back to about the 15th century when swords were carried on the left hip. Thus the bold knight walking with his lady, lord, or elders could more easily defend them against attack by quickly drawing his sword from left to right in front of them. (There are no records in Germany's medieval monasteries about left-handed knights and where they walked.) This custom is still maintained among the military worldwide. In heavy traffic, however, practicality has replaced tradition, and men do walk on the traffic side of the street just as they do in the States.

If you have been invited for dinner in Germany, you should be on time. Usually there is no cocktail hour (this is an American custom, and spreading slowly). Don't forget to bring a small bouquet of flowers for the hostess, and make sure it is an uneven number, maybe five or seven. Be careful to whom you pre-

sent red roses as this gesture comes close to a declaration of love. Just before handing someone flowers, you should remove the wrapping paper. If you can't or don't want to bring flowers, you could choose some other small gift, for instance, a box of candy or a good book.

Once you are seated at the dinner table, the host first tests the wine, then fills the glasses of his guests, filling his own last. However, he is the first to drink, raising his glass with a toast to the guests. He might say Auf Ihr Wohl or Zum Wohl (to your health). The guests then raise their glasses and look at the host, hostess, and each guest in turn. Then all take a sip, again raise their glasses, repeat the eye contact ritual, and put the glass down. Thereafter all may drink without further ceremony. A wine glass is held by the stem; any other way is considered bad style.

"What a nice apartment you have," "That's a sharp tie you are wearing," "That's the best meal I've ever had," - all compliments which we make without giving it a second thought. Germans are,however,very straightforward,and in comparison to Americans, they pay very few compliments. Don't be surprised if they don't say danke (thank you) in response to a compliment. Freely acknowledging it as warranted would be considered immodest. If a German is embarrassed by a compliment, he or she will simply try to ignore it.

Sunday is a day of rest when most Germans want peace and quiet. One is not supposed to work in the garden, do repair work, wash one's car, or hang up laundry for drying. Excessively noisy activities, which are not only frowned upon but even against the law, are punishable by law if they occur on Sundays, holidays, during the lunch period (approx. noon to 3 p.m.), or at night.

GETTING AROUND

In the country of the Volkswagen, Mercedes, Porsche, and BMW, public transportation still plays a significant role.

Trains, subways, buses, and streetcars--all of which are publicly owned and operated--will enable you to go just about anywhere at a reasonable price. You can take a taxi too, but taxi companies are in the money-making business and generally charge a great deal.

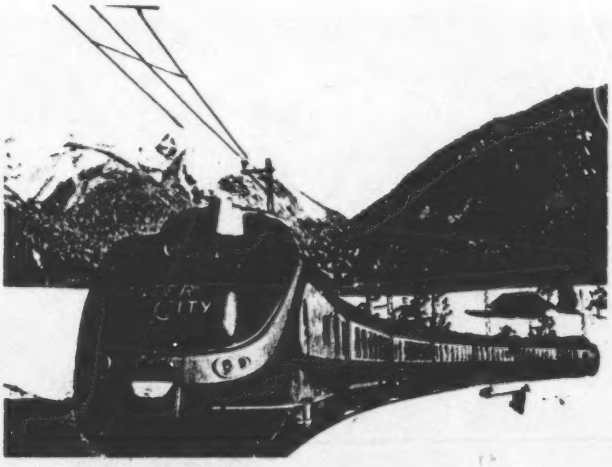
With increased automation, tickets for the subway (U-Bahn), streetcar (Straßenbahn), or bus are available from dispensing machines located at the stops. Although some of the older streetcars still have a conductor, you more commonly have to validate your ticket once you are inside a Straßenbahn, Bus, or U-Bahn by inserting it into a machine which stamps the date and time. Sometimes there are en route checks, and anyone with an unvalidated ticket or no ticket at all has to pay a fine. Don't be surprised if you see people hop on without validating a ticket as many Germans buy discount subscription tickets (Zeitkarten) valid for a week or a month.

If you're on a limited budget and want to see a bit of Germany, take the train. You'll not only see much of the countryside, but also become exposed to Germans from all areas and walks of life. Travelers eat, drink, read, and play chess while on the train. It's all very relaxed and casual.

All German cities and towns, even smaller ones, are connected by rail. The train service is dependable and trains are usually on time. Arrival (Ankunft) and departure (Abfahrt) schedules are posted at every railroad station with short distance and slower trains listed in black, and express trains listed in red. First

and second class sections are indicated by the numbers 1 and 2 on the cars, usually next to the doors. Also posted on the outside of cars are signs identifying smoking (Raucher) and non-smoking (Nichtraucher) sections.

There are many types of trains: local, commuter, special, express, and so on. Several of the express trains require a surcharge (Zuschlag) in addition to the basic fare. The surcharge ticket, purchased at the ticket window or from the conductor on the train, costs a set amount regardless of how far you go. Basic fares are about 50 percent higher in first class than in second. The only trains which do not have a second class section are the inter-city expresses and the Trans-Europa Express (TEE). As in the U.S., one round-trip ticket is cheaper than two one-way tickets. A half-price fare is also available for children between the ages of 4 and 12.



It is possible to reserve a seat on most trains. This is particularly advisable when taking a long trip during major holidays or during the busy summer tourist season. Corridors are narrow, and when you try to get through them with your 80 pound suitcase while looking for a vacant seat, and someone else coming from the opposite direction has similar intentions and a similar suitcase, the result is often more than a wrinkled tie. Therefore, consider reserving a seat, buying a Platzkarte (reserved seat ticket) in advance.

If you plan to sleep on the train, advance reservations are also recommended for pullman cars. You may want to consider going by auto-train, particularly when traveling to other European countries. This will give you the added convenience of having your own car with you when you arrive at your destination.

If you don't want to carry your luggage onto the train, it should be checked at the station in advance. Twelve hours before departure is recommended; otherwise, it may get there later than you do.

When entering a compartment, Germans usually greet passengers already present and ask if the seat they are about to select is free or reserved. After each stop the conductor will check the tickets of those who just boarded the train. In most cases stops are not announced on the train, so it is a good idea to watch the signs as the train pulls into the station. Unlike most signs in U.S. stations, the German signs have large letters and are spaced on the platform for easy visibility from any part of the train. At main stations the signs will read "HBF" which is the abbreviation for Hauptbahnhof (main station).

Have a nice trip with the Deutsche Bundesbahn!

DRIVING

Unless you are a veteran New York City cabdriver or have been in at least two Grand Prix races, driving in Germany and the rest of Europe is going to seem a bit different to you. Europeans drive fast, stop fast, and even park fast. This is not necessarily a sign of carelessness or bravado. They are simply trained differently and react quicker, in most cases, than their American

counterparts. So let's talk some more about driving in Germany. First you might need some gas, Benzin as it is called in Germany.

At a German gas station, (Tankstelle) services like cleaning the windshield and checking the oil are by no means performed automatically. It would be necessary to request those services and advisable to reward them with a tip (50 pfennig to one mark). However, there are many self-service gas stations, and on weekends most gas stations that are open are coin-operated.

Many Germans own a car nowadays, and traffic is extremely heavy almost everywhere. Most Germans drive very aggressively and fast, and some regard their automobile as a status symbol and a means of displaying their prowess. They are trained to react quickly, and their driving habits are remarkably uniform. They drive as if it were safe to assume that the other guy will do what he is supposed to do. It is extremely important to be totally familiar with all rules concerning the right-of-way in various situations.

The most important traffic regulations are as follows: Traffic is on the right-hand side. Other cars are passed on the left; even on divided highways. Passing another car on the right is strictly illegal. At an intersection that is not specially marked, the car on the right always has the right-of-way. Pedestrians have the right-of-way at zebra-crossings, and speed limit within city limits is 50 km/h, even if it is not posted. City limits are indicated by yellow signs. Unbroken white center lines must not be crossed, broken center lines (or lane dividers) may be crossed if it can be done safely. On federal expressways (Autobahn) no stopping, parking, or turning is permitted.

Like elsewhere in Europe, traffic signs are mostly pictorial or symbolic. Warning signs are triangular, signs that require or prohibit something are round, and information signs are rectangular. The "stop" sign is a triangle standing on edge with the word

"STOP" on it; the "yield" sign has the same shape. Vehicles on a federal road (Bundesstraße) have the right-of-way; such roads are marked by small rectangular yellow signs bearing the particular road number. Another sign indicating right-of-way is a small square standing on edge which is either white with a red border, or yellow with a border.

End of Speed Limit

Customs Control

Entry Prohibited

Road Closed

Yield to on-coming traffic

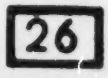
You have the right-of-way

Danger

No Stopping

No Parking

Speed Limit



Highway Number

You have the right-of-way

Yield, you are approaching a Priority Road

You are on a priority road. You have the right-of-way.

Detour

American servicemen are subject to German law for minor traffic violations like illegal parking, exceeding the speed limit, negligent driving, and similar offenses. This means the German police have the right to cite you and even collect a small fine on the spot when issuing you a ticket. Large fines are paid in court.

Serious offenses, considered felonies under the German law but subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) for American military personnel, include passing illegally, failure to keep to the right when vision is obstructed, hit and run accidents, speeding at railroad crossings, making U-turns on freeways, failure to warn oncoming traffic when your vehicle is stopped or parked on a highway, and driving under the influence of alcohol.

Keeping all that in mind, we wish you Hals- und Beinbruch (good luck, lit. break your neck and leg).

HOTELS

Germany is a great place for traveling. There are many villages and small towns where you can enjoy the old-time German atmosphere in traditional inns, or you may prefer the bustle of the big cities where you can find cosmopolitan entertainment and international-style accommodations.

In many places, especially big cities and tourist spots, there is a room referral service (Zimmernachweis, Zimmervermittlung) located at airports or near railway stations to assist you in making reservations. Many localities also maintain a tourist information center (Verkehrsamt), and of course any commercial travel bureau (Reisebüro) can arrange for accommodations anywhere in Germany or Europe.

The most commonly used word for hotel is Hotel, but you will also find hotels called Gasthaus or Gasthof. These tend to be smaller and more leisurely and are like inns. Since the food in these smaller hotels is usually quite good, people sometimes go there to eat. A Pension is a boarding house where guests are provided with a room and two or three meals a day. During the tourist season you can also find rooms at reasonable rates in private homes displaying the sign Fremdenzimmer (guest room).

In most German hotels they used to shine shoes which guests left overnight in front of the door, but today this is only done in the most expensive hotels. If you opt for moderately priced accommodations, it is advisable to bring your own soap and washcloth along, since these, unlike towels, may not be supplied. Breakfast, consisting of coffee, tea, rolls, butter, and jam, is generally included in the price of a room. However, there is no room service, so you will have to go to the dining room for breakfast.

RESTAURANTS

Tired of eating at the mess hall? Need a change of scenery? Well there is no need to worry, McDonald's and Kentucky Fried Chicken have franchises all over Germany. But, why not try a German restaurant? The Headstart Program has one entire module which teaches you how to read and understand a menu and order some basic meals and beverages in German. So don't worry about communication problems--besides, your waiter might be from Greece, Italy, or Turkey anyway, and he'll have the same problems you might encounter.

There are many words referring to restaurants. The most common ones are das Restaurant and das Lokal. Other words meaning restaurant are die Gaststätte, die Gastwirtschaft, die Wirtschaft, and das Wirtshaus. No explanation is needed for die Bar, the only place where you can get mixed drinks. If all you want is a glass of beer, the place to go to would most commonly be called Wirtschaft. A Weinstube is a tavern specializing in wines. For a quick bite to eat you can stop at a Schnellimbißstube where hot or cold sandwiches are sold.

Das Café, as the name implies, is primarily for those who want coffee, which is served by the cup or small pot. There is no free refill with coffee. Besides coffee, soft drinks, tea or wine are also available, as well as cakes and pastries. As a matter of fact, in a Café your piece of cake or pastry is as important as your cup of coffee or tea--according to German tradition. A Café is ideal for getting some peace and quiet, reading the newspaper, or just watching people. It is also a convenient place to get to know the people of your host country. Germans generally have no inhibitions about trying out their English on you.

There is no hostess to seat you in a restaurant, so just go ahead and pick your own table. You should be aware that it is not unusual for total strangers to sit down at the same table. If there are any empty tables, one would certainly take those. However, if all are taken,people generally ask if they may sit down at a table where there are still some empty chairs.

No matter how crowded a restaurant may be, you are not permitted to sit at a table with the sign Stammtisch or a small flag on it. Long-established custom reserves such a table for a group of regulars who come together for a drink, good conversation, or a card game called Skat. You might also come across a table, particularly in a smaller restaurant, which is reserved for Stammgäste, people who regularly eat their meals there. No offense is intended if such tables remain inaccessible to you or if Stammgäste get served first.

THE »STAMM-TISCH«

Germans do not have ice water or coffee with their meals. They usually drink beer or wine with their warm lunch and beer or tea with their cold supper. Lunch, served between noon and 2 p.m., is the main meal of the day, and normally Germans do not eat bread with it. Though in some parts of the country bread might be put on the table, it is not included in the price of the meal. You have to pay for each slice you take. Of course you can get a warm meal in the evening too, but try not to get hungry after about 10 p.m. because it is virtually impossible to get a hot meal this late in the evening.

Like most Europeans, the Germans hold the fork in the left hand and the knife in the right while eating. There is no switching of the fork from left to right after the meat has been cut. When not being used, the left hand is held beside the plate and

may not be kept under the table. Smoking while others are still eating is considered impolite. It is always advisable for smokers to ask permission to smoke.

To get the attention of the waiter or waitress, you may call them by saying Herr Ober or Fräulein. Tipping is done differently in Germany. Included in the bill is an 11% tax and 15% service charge. The tip given to a waiter or waitress is thus much smaller than in the U.S. and just a token of appreciation. People usually round off the figure; for instance, if the check is for DM 12,60, they pay 13 marks. There are no cashiers, so you have to settle the bill directly with the waiter. Also, be sure not to leave the tip on the table, but hand it to the waiter. Paying with a personal check or credit card is not yet very common in Germany.

If all that sounds very complicated and you feel it's just too much to remember, follow the rule of thumb for any new situation you might be exposed to: "When in Rome (Berlin, Köln, Bonn, or Dinkelsbühl) do as the Romans (Berliners etc.) do."

BEER AND WINE

Germany has one of the highest per capita beer consumption rates in the world. This is not because the water is bad. To be more precise, water in Germany is either drinking water (Trinkwasser) or not drinking water. Watch out for the signs saying Kein Trinkwasser (no drinking water), especially in public places like train stations. The purity of German beer, on the other hand, is impeccable as it is brewed exclusively from malt, yeast and hops (as opposed to practices in some countries where rice, corn, sugar, or chemical substances are used).

There are many types of beer and innumerable breweries, each following its own traditional recipe. Helles (light) is heavy on hops and light on malt, Dunkles (dark) is the

other way around, Bock is a heavy, sweet beer, Pilsener is a light beer with a hearty taste, Altbier is highly fermented and slightly bitter, Starkbier (strong beer), especially if it is brewed in Kulmbach, is very flavorful. Berliner Weisse which most appropriately is to be enjoyed in Berlin is made from highly carbonated, low alcoholic light beer with raspberry syrup. (Don't knock it till you've tried it.) If water and beer turn you off, consider wine.

HB

HOFBRAUHAUS

LOWENBRAU MUNCHEN

LOWENBRAU

The white wines of Germany are one of the finer fringe benefits of life in Europe (for red wine you'll have to turn to the French). All labels tell you when and where the wine was made. The year is important because weather plays a big part in flavor and quality. The place a wine comes from is even more important. There are seven major growing regions in West Germany, each known for wines having certain distinctive characteristics. Most labels list not only the region, but the town or village and the name of the vineyard.

Another important thing to know is what type of grape was used. The three most common types of grape are: Riesling which has a nice bouquet and subtle flavor, Sylvaner which has a fruity taste, and Traminer which is rich and spicy. Depending on the quality of the grapes at the time that they are picked, wines may be further classified, and there are several categories denoting certain degrees of excellence. In short, knowing your wines is a science, and an enjoyable one at that. And it's easy to get started.

If by this time you still don't know whether you prefer wine or beer and you have dismissed water as a reasonable alternative, consider both. The order in which you solve this problem is important, however. For this dilemma the Germans also have a saying (of course):

Bier auf Wein
Das lass' sein.
Wein auf Bier
Das rat' ich dir.

Loosely translated this means: don't drink beer on top of wine. Wine on top of beer, on the other hand, will do you no harm.

RECREATION

Germans are not only spectators of sporting events, but actively engage in all sorts of sports. As is the case in all of Europe, soccer (Fußball) is king in Germany.

Baseball and football are virtually unknown. Swimming and skiing are very popular too, and there are numerous facilities. Tennis has become fairly common in recent years, whereas golf and horseback-riding are still very exclusive. Most people love to hike, and fairly nice trails can be found all over the country. There are also over a thousand campgrounds in Germany. You may also want to take your whole family to a zoo, animal park, or fairy tale park.

Almost every town has both indoor and outdoor public swimming pools. Sailboats and rowboats can be rented by the hour on most of the larger lakes in Bavaria and Schleswig-Holstein. For fishing you need a license issued by local authorities as well as permission by the owner of the fishing water. Unfortunately, hunting licenses are extremely expensive. Tennis courts, where you can play for a few marks an hour without belonging to a club, have been built in many towns, but there are practically no public golf courses in Germany. If you are interested in flying, glid-

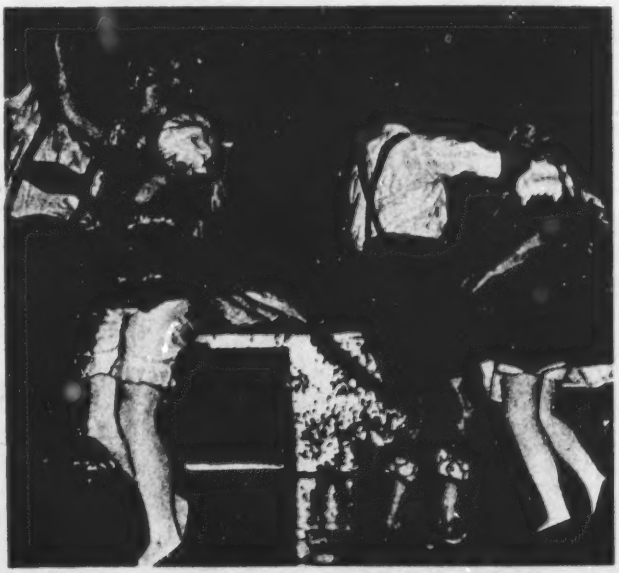
ing, mountaineering, tobogganing, or almost any other outdoor activity, you can find the place to do it in Germany.

During the summer months there are even special "courses" given in such diverse and exotic areas as developing driving skills (here you learn how to come out of a skid gracefully), learning how to tell a good wine from a bad wine and differentiate between types of wines, fencing, sky-diving, surfing, and getting along with your partner.

ENTERTAINMENT

Although there are "only" ten legal holidays, some say that in Germany festivals are as numerous as the days of the year. Though this may be a slight exaggeration,there is always something going on somewhere: festivals, country fairs, historical celebrations, religious ceremonies, parades, shooting contests and dances of the rifle associations, and so on.

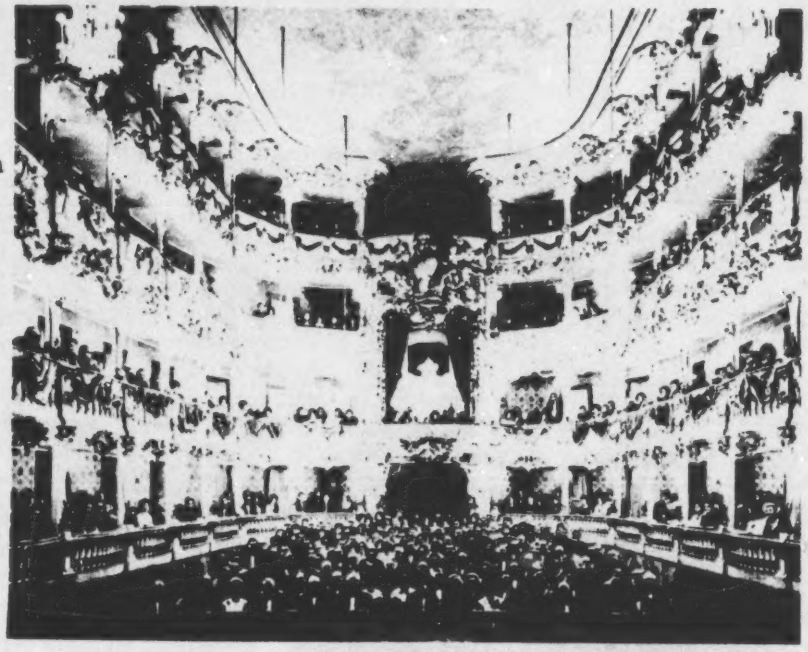
The Oktoberfest in Munich which is the world's biggest beer festival and carnival (shrovetide, mardi gras), the season of merrymaking and revelry celebrated right before Lent, attracts large crowds. Carnival is observed primarily in predominantly Roman Catholic areas. Called Karneval on the Rhine and Fasching in Bavaria, it turns the cities of Mainz, Cologne, Düsseldorf, and Munich upside down for a few crazy days. During the rest of the year entertainment is offered and can be enjoyed in many other forms.



There are numerous orchestras, symphonies, and theaters (operas and playhouses) in Germany, as well as several annual music festivals. Germany also has many fine museums. Generally, museums are closed on Mondays, in West Berlin on Tuesdays. One day a week they are also open in the evening. And be sure not to miss the castles and cathedrals in the area that you will visit.

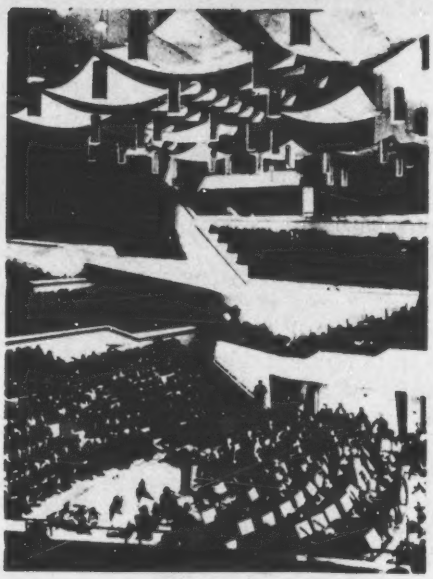
At movie theaters, admission is for one show only,and moviegoers cannot stay for the next show. Depending on the location of the seat, tickets differ in price. Very few people check their coats,and

smoking is not permitted in movie houses. When walking sideways through a row of seats, past people who are already seated, always turn your face (rather than your back) towards them.



Palace Theater in Munich

Apropos movies. Many films shown in German cinemas or on TV are dubbed American films. Seeing those movies is an excellent way for you to improve your German since you will be familiar with the setting and should be able to guess what John Wayne means when he gets the drop on the bad guys and says: "Hände hoch!" (Hands up!), or when Columbo produces his chewed up cigar in an elegant living room and asks "Darf ich rauchen?" (May I smoke?).



Philharmonie, Berlin

THOSE BAD GERMAN TOWNS

There are many towns whose names contain the word Bad, such as Bad Homburg, Bad Kreuznach, Baden-Baden or Wiesbaden. The word Bad, akin to "bath," means spa, i.e. mineral springs resort. Bad towns are health resorts, and centuries ago European nobility started the tradition of "taking the waters" at the more renowned spas, indulging in fanciful or fancied ailments, and enjoying the scenery and the exclusiveness of social life. Going for a Kur (cure) at a Kurort (spa) has become immensely popular and lost its former exclusiveness.

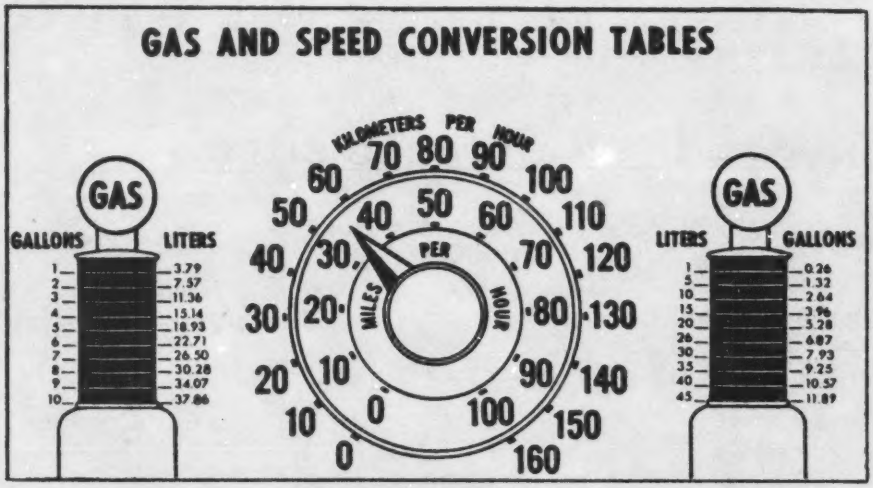
Though the spas cater to patients, none of them severely ill, who follow a daily routine of hot and cold baths, mud packs, massages, strolls, and water sipping, they also have something to offer to the mere tourist who can take a walk through immaculately landscaped parks, listen to outdoor concerts, spend an afternoon in a sidewalk cafe, or an evening at the roulette table.

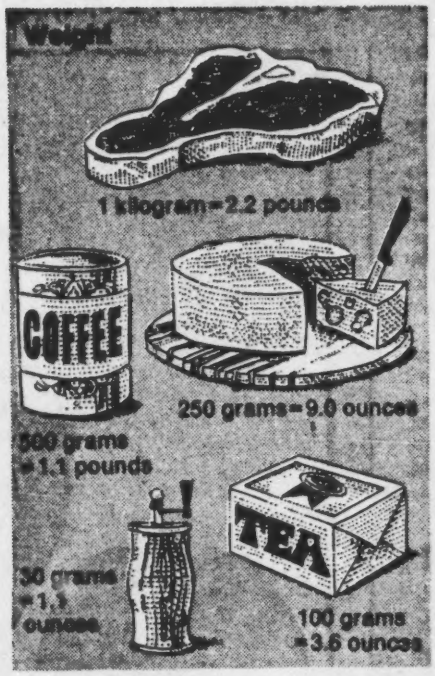
SHOPPING

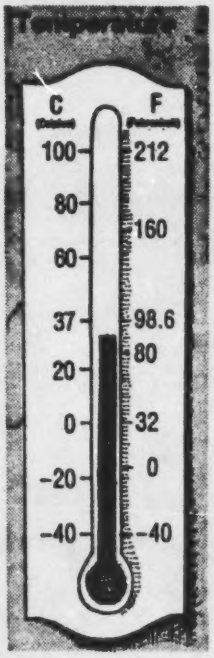
Even though you find supermarkets and department stores in all cities, there are still many small shops left which give you more personal attention.
An old and still flourishing institution is the open-air market where you can buy fresh fruit and vegetables, cheese, sausages, flowers, even live chickens at numerous stalls. Touching or handling produce is not permitted.

Shopping hours differ somewhat from state to state, but in general stores are open from about 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. On Saturdays they close at 1 p.m., and they are closed on Sundays. On the first Saturday of each month, most stores stay open until 6 p.m. In small towns most shops close for a 2-hour lunchbreak, usually from 1 to 3 p.m.

There are two types of drugstores: at a Drogerie you can buy toilet articles and non-prescription drugs; an Apotheke is a pharmacy. Pharmacies have a 24-hour emergency service. After regular hours there is a sign in the window of every Apotheke giving the name and address of the nearest pharmacist on call.


GAS AND SPEED CONVERSION TABLES
GAS
GALLONS
LITERS
1 3.79
2 7.57
3 11.36
4 15.14
5 18.93
6 22.71
7 26.50
8 30.28
9 34.07
10 37.86
KILOMETERS PER HOUR
MILES PER HOUR
GAS
LITERS
GALLONS
1 0.26
5 1.32
10 2.64
15 3.96
20 5.28
25 6.87
30 7.93
35 9.25
40 10.57
45 11.89


Weight
1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds
COFFEE
250 grams = 9.0 ounces
500 grams = 1.1 pounds
TEA
30 grams = 1.1 ounces
100 grams = 3.6 ounces


C
F
100
80
60
37
20
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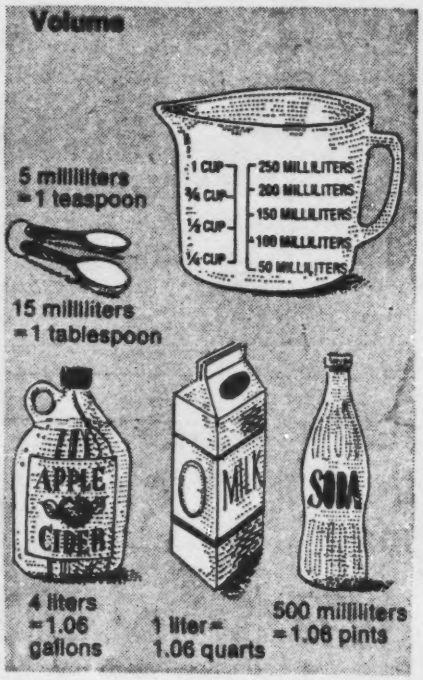
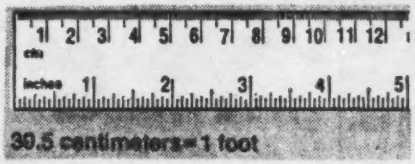
-20
-40
212
160
98.6
80
32
0
-40


Volume
5 milliliters = 1 teaspoon
15 milliliters = 1 tablespoon
1 CUP
¾ CUP
½ CUP
¼ CUP
250 MILLILITERS
200 MILLILITERS
150 MILLILITERS
100 MILLILITERS
50 MILLILITERS
APPLE CIDER
MILK
SODA
4 liters = 1.06 gallons
1 liter = 1.06 quarts
500 milliliters = 1.06 pints


cm
inches
30.5 centimeters = 1 foot

If you are concerned about nutrition, you may want to know that Reformhaus means health food store.

CONVERSION OF CLOTHING SIZES

MEN'S SIZES

Suits & Coats

US	GER
36	46
38	48
40	50
42	52
44	54

Shirts

US	GER	US	GER
14	36	16	40-41
14 1/2	37	16 1/2	42
15	38	17	43
15 1/2	39	17 1/2	44-45

Shoes

US	GER	US	GER
6	38	9	43
6 1/2	39	10	44
7	40	11	45
8	41	12	46
8 1/2	42	13	47

LADIES' SIZES

Blouses & Lingerie

US	GER
30	38
32	40
34	42
36	44
38	46
40	48
42	50

Dresses, Coats & Suits

US	GER
10	38
12	40
14	42
16	44
18	46
20	48

Shoes

US	GER	US	GER
4	35 1/2	8	40
4 1/2	36	9	40 1/2
5	37	9 1/2	41
6	37 1/2	10	41 1/2
6 1/2	38	10 1/2	42
7	38 1/2	11	43
7 1/2	39	12	44

Stockings

US	GER
8	0
8 1/2	1
9	2
9 1/2	3
10	4
10 1/2	5
11	6

MENU GUIDE

Vorspeise	Hors D'oeuvres/Appetizers
Austern	Oysters
Gänseleberpastete	Goose liver paté
Heringssalat	Herring salad
Italienischer Salat	Italian salad
Kaviar	Caviar
Blätterteigpastete	Filled puff pastry
Räucheraal	Smoked eel
Räucherlachs	Smoked salmon
Russische Eier	Deviled eggs
Weinbergschnecken	Snails

Suppe	Soup
Tagessuppe	Soup of the day
Erbsensuppe	Pea soup
Gulaschsuppe	Goulash soup
Hühnerbrühe	Chicken broth
Kraftbrühe	Clear broth
Linsensuppe	Lentil soup
Ochsenschwanzsuppe	Oxtail soup
Tomatensuppe	Tomato soup

Fleisch und Geflügel	Meat and Poultry
Braten	Roast
Bratwurst	Fried sausage
Eisbein	Ham hock
Ente	Duck
Filetsteak	Filetsteak
Frikassee	Fricassee
Gans	Goose
Hähnchen	Barbecued (or fried) chicken
Hammelfleisch	Mutton
Hammelkeule	Leg of mutton
Hammelkotelett	Mutton chop
Hase	Hare
Huhn	Chicken
Kalbfleisch	Veal
Kalbskotelett	Veal chop
Leber	Liver
Nieren	Kidneys
Ragout	Ragout, stew
Reh	Roe, small deer
Rehkeule	Leg of venison
Rindfleisch	Beef
Rinderbraten	Beef roast
Rumpsteak*	Sirloin (or similar cut)
Schweinefleisch	Pork
Schweinebraten	Pork roast
Schweinekotelett	Pork chop
Schweineschnitzel	Pork cutlet
Wiener Schnitzel	Breaded veal cutlet
Wildschweinrücken	Chine of wild boar

*The English word "rumpsteak" is used differently in German. The reason is that German butchers cut the meat differently.

Fisch	Fish
Aal	Eel
Forelle	Trout
Hecht	Pike
Hering	Herring
Kabeljau	Cod
Karpfen	Carp
Makrele	Mackerel
Salm	Salmon
Schellfisch	Fresh haddock
Scholle	Plaice
Steinbutt	Turbot

Beilagen	Side Dishes
Bratkartoffeln	Fried potatoes
Kartoffelbrei	Mashed potatoes
Kartoffelpüree	Mashed potatoes
Kartoffelklöße	Potato dumplings
Makkaroni	Macaroni
Nudeln	Noodles
Pommes Frites	French fries
Reis	Rice
Salzkartoffeln	Boiled potatoes
Spätzle	Spätzle (homemade noodles)

Gemüse	Vegetables
Artischocken	Artichokes
Blumenkohl	Cauliflower
Erbsen	Peas
Grüne Bohnen	Green beans
Gurken	Cucumbers
Karotten	Carrots
Möhren	Carrots
Pilze	Mushrooms
Rosenkohl	Brussel sprouts
Rotkohl	Red cabbage
Rotkraut	Red cabbage
Sauerkraut	Sauerkraut
Spargel	Asparagus
Spinat	Spinach
Tomaten	Tomatoes
Weißkohl	White cabbage
Weißkraut	White cabbage

Salat	Salad
Endiviensalat	Endive salad
Gemischter Salat	Mixed salad
Gurkensalat	Cucumber salad
Kartoffelsalat	Potato salad
Kopfsalat	Lettuce salad
Rohkostplatte	Assorted raw vegetables
Selleriesalat	Celery salad
Tomatensalat	Tomato salad

Kalte Speisen	Cold Dishes
Aufschnitt	Cold cuts
Beefsteak Tartar	Beefsteak tartar (raw beefsteak)
Belegtes Brot	Open-faced sandwich
Kaltes Geflügel	Cold poultry
Käseplatte	Assorted cheeses
Schinken	Ham
Wurstplatte	Assorted cold cuts

Eierspeisen	Egg Dishes
Omelett	Omelette
Pfannkuchen	German pancake (not sweet)
Rührei	Scrambled eggs
Spiegeleier	Fried eggs
Verlorene Eier	Poached eggs

Nachtisch	Dessert
Eis	Ice cream
Frisches Obst	Fresh fruits
Kompott	Compote, stewed fruit
Obstsalat	Fruit salad
Pudding	Pudding

Gebäck	Pastry
Apfelstrudel mit Schlagsahne	Apple strudel with whipped cream
Berliner Pfannkuchen	Jelly-filled doughnuts
Blätterteiggebäck	Puff pastry
Obstkuchen	Cake with fresh fruit
Teegebäck	Cookies
Torte	Layer cake

VOCABULARY

Abfahrt	departure
Altbier	a highly fermented beer popular on the Rhine
Ankunft	arrival
Apotheke	pharmacy
Auf Ihr Wohl!	To your health.
Autobahn	express highway
Bad	spa, health resort (as part of a town's name)
Bar	bar
Benzin	gasoline
Berliner Weiße	light beer flavored with raspberry syrup
Bock(bier)	a heavy, sweet beer
Bundesrepublik Deutschland (BRD)	Federal Republic of Germany
Bundesstraße	federal road
Bus	bus
Cafe	cafe, coffeeshop, bakery
danke	thank you
Deutsche Bundesbahn	German Federal Railroad
Deutsche Demokratische Republik (DDR)	German Democratic Republic (GDR)
Doktor	Doctor (title)
Drogerie	drugstore (no prescription drugs)
Du	you (informal)
Dunkles	dark beer
Fasching	carnival, shrovetide, mardi gras
Fernsprecher	public telephone
Frau	Mrs.

Fräulein	Miss
Fremdenzimmer	room for rent in a private residence
Fußball	soccer
Gasthaus	inn
Gasthof	inn
Gaststätte	restaurant
Gastwirtschaft	restaurant, tavern
Hauptbahnhof	main railroad station
Helles	light beer
Herr	Mr.
Herr Ober	the way of addressing a waiter
Hochdeutsch	High German (standard language)
Hotel	hotel
Karneval	carnival, shrovetide, mardi gras
Kaution	security deposit
kein	no
kein Trinkwasser	no drinking water
Kur	"cure" at a health resort
Kurort	spa, health resort
Lokal	restaurant
Major	major
Nichtraucher	non-smoker
Ober	waiter
Oktoberfest	beer festival in Munich
Pension	boarding house

Pilsener	a light beer with a hearty taste originally brewed in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia
Platzkarte	reserved seat ticket (train)
Professor	professor
Raucher	smoker
Reformhaus	health food store
Reisebüro	travel bureau
Restaurant	restaurant
Riesling	a type of grape
Schnellimbißstube	fast-service sandwich place
Sie	you (formal)
Skat	a popular card game
Stammgäste	people who regularly eat at the same restaurant
Stammtisch	table reserved for regulars
Starkbier	strong beer
Straßenbahn	streetcar
Sylvaner	a type of grape
Tankstelle	gas station
Traminer	a type of grape
Trinkwasser	drinking water
U-Bahn	subway
Verkehrsamt	tourist information center
Vorwählnummer	area code
Weinstube	a tavern specializing in wines
Wirtschaft	restaurant, tavern
Wirtshaus	restaurant, tavern
Zeitkarten	discount subscription tickets

Zimmernachweis	room referral service
Zimmervermittlung	room referral service
Zum Wohl!	To your health.
Zuschlag	surcharge

40

QUIZ

	TRUE	FALSE
1. West Germany is about the size of Oregon.	____	____
2. Breakfast is generally included in the price of a hotel room.	____	____
3. The speed limit within city limits is 30 km/h.	____	____
4. It is customary to bring red roses for the hostess when being invited for dinner.	____	____
5. Most German stores are open Saturdays and Sundays.	____	____
6. Some post offices close for lunch.	____	____
7. A man holds out his hand first when about to shake hands with a woman.	____	____
8. There are no hostesses in German restaurants.	____	____
9. One has to pay for a local call from one's own telephone.	____	____
10. German gas station attendants automatically clean the windshield.	____	____
11. Passing another car on the right is illegal.	____	____
12. At a German restaurant it is customary to leave a 15% tip on the table.	____	____
13. Germans use knives and forks the same way as Americans.	____	____
14. A Reformhaus is a juvenile correction facility.	____	____
15. Landlords do not pay for painting or wallpapering rooms.	____	____
16. Vehicles on a federal road (Bundesstraße) have the right-of-way.	____	____

	TRUE	FALSE
17. Germany has an efficient public transportation system.	____	____
18. When entering a restaurant, a German woman walks ahead of her male escort.	____	____
19. There are many public golf courses in Germany.	____	____
20. German beer is made from malt, corn, and sugar.	____	____
21. The German police have the right to cite Americans for traffic violations.	____	____
22. Smoking is not permitted in movie theaters.	____	____
23. A Gasthaus is a small cottage for guests on the grounds of a private residence.	____	____
24. Soccer is the most popular sport in Germany.	____	____
25. Bundesrepublik Deutschland refers to what is commonly called "East Germany."	____	____

KEY.

1. true
2. true
3. false
4. false
5. false
6. true
7. false
8. true
9. true
10. false
11. true
12. false
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